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Comments

On proposed rule making regarding the Internet "Net Neutrality"
by Thomas H. McGuire

AUTHORITY

I do not think the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has the authority to regulate a service on the Internet known as the World Wide Web (the Web). However, I think the FCC, as a government agency, can regulate a United States Internet Service Provider (ISP) by setting rules for use of the people's property.

I believe the internet was developed by the United States military. Therefore, the FCC is the agency that may set the rules an ISP in this country must follow to use the internet commercially.

SUGGESTED ISP REQUIREMENTS

In order to be an ISP in this country the ISP must provide, at least, email service to its customers as an agent of the United States Postal Service.

An ISP cannot be the agent of a foreign power.

An ISP must provide up to 2 (two) email boxes for a natural person, 2 (two) for a company, and 5 (five) for a corporation. Each ISP must maintain servers adequate to hold the email.

Email is similar to letters written on paper with ink. Therefore, I believe email is a U.S. Postal Service responsibility. The difference is the amount of time the email must be maintained by an ISP. The Postal Service may set the duration an undelivered email is held by an ISP.

On the entire internet a natural person may have 1 (one) public mail box, a company 1 (one), a corporation may have 2 (two) public mail boxes. Private email boxes are allowed but they can only carry company or corporate internal mail or first class (most expensive) emails. The contents of an email cannot be read by the ISP and are subject to the restrictions applied to a first class letter by the United States Postal Service regarding privacy.

SUGGESTIONS FOR UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

The ISP must collect from the originator the cost of an email. The United States Postal Service shall set the price for sending an email.

Received & Inspected

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I suggest a special rate for a natural person. A natural person may send an email to 10 different addresses per day at no charge. Each additional email address is billed at normal rates. Companies and corporations are not natural people so the special rate does not apply.

A person, company, or corporation may have a public email address at an ISP for a post office or, a library, or at a facility which provides mail boxes for letters. The facility must provide all equipment required to access email. A facility may allow the customer to retrieve an email with his or her own equipment.

ISP FUNCTION

An ISP operates a transport service. An ISP may not "look" at the actual content entrusted to it. It may collect information on services and charge for the transport of data. An ISP may charge for its services except for a public email box.

The ISP is entrusted with data but it may not "mine" it or sell the facts of the content to others. Postal regulations apply for pornography.

World Wide Web

In the matter of the World Wide Web service, an ISP in the United States may choose to offer that service but the extension used in the web address must identify what service the site does.

For example a .com or .bus site may only carry advertising or information about a company, its products, or an individual. A .org is used by non-profits. A .str or .ret indicates the site sells merchandise. The extensions .ost or .ort is a store operated by a non-profit (charitable or volunteer) organization. A store may be operated by a not-for-profit organization but it must carry the address extension .str or .ret.

With provision of a human readable address of a store (website with the extension .str, .ret, .ost, or .ort) an informational website may allow a user to go to a store.

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Other Services

An ISP way offer a number of services but the customer can only actually be billed for what he, she, or it uses. All services used must be shown on the bill which must be sent to the customer as a paper document.

Penalties

An ISP can be banned from the Internet. If banned, an ISP must surrender the contents of its email boxes to another ISP. The receiving ISP and banned ISP must endeavor to contact the email addressees to advise of the change. A banned ISP is called a Fitz

A Fitz may not buy an ISP, own an ISP, or control an ISP. If an an ISP beecoes a Fitz it must divest itself from any ISP it owns. A Fitz may store data for its clients but can only send it to the client as physical media. A Fitz cannot engage or employ an ISP to transport data.